

# PORTLAND—City of Roses



Portland lies about 70 miles from the Pacific Coast on the northern border of the state of Oregon. Portland is a pleasing mix of big-city dynamics and small-town friendliness.

Portland is one of the most beautiful cities in the world with an exciting blend of historic and ultra-modern architecture. The scenery can't be beat with views of Mt. Hood and the Willamette River, stately pine trees, roses and stunning seasonal color. Combine this with great art, waterfront festivals, a diverse population and you have one very exciting city.

## Downtown and around

Downtown Portland boasts an amazing array of attractions, including the largest bookstore in the world, a nationally acclaimed art museum, and a vibrant culinary community. Portland is an easy city to bike, walk or use public transport.



## Neighborhoods with personality

The Pearl District is the sophisticate of Portland's neighborhoods. The Pearl is home to chic lofts, shops, art galleries and trendy restaurants. The Pearl's most famous resident is Powell's City of Books. Extending a city block and with over one million books, Powell's is the world's largest independent bookseller.



## Nob Hill, "Café Society"

Nob Hill is the city's most vibrant shopping district and bon vivant of neighborhoods. Streets bordered by fine Victorian homes form the core of this lively community where strolling is de rigueur and sidewalk cafes create an almost European atmosphere.

Explore! Walk some blocks!

### Hawthorne Boulevard, "Bohemian Rhapsody"

Hawthorne Boulevard lures locals and visitors with a beguiling blend of shopping, dining and entertainment opportunities. The boulevard extends for miles but the intersection of 37<sup>th</sup> avenue is its heart; the corner here hums with pedestrian traffic and the frequent rhythm of conga drums. Cafes abound and the action is as much on the sidewalks as in stores catering to alternative tastes.



### Old Town/Chinatown

This district's notorious past (where sailors, loggers, and ranchers were kidnapped and sold as deck hands to unscrupulous ship captains) is today decidedly more respectable. This district is best known for both its Portland Saturday Market, a wildly popular bazaar of 300 arts and crafts vendors, and the Portland Classical Chinese Garden in the Ming dynasty style.

### Cultural District, "The Grand Dame"

The cultural district is both an urban oasis and a haven for the fine and performing arts. South Park Blocks is a majestic city park defined by 12 blocks of emerald lawns studded with public art and outlined with towering elms. The district is also home to the Portland Art Museum known for fabulous exhibitions and its collection of Native American and Northwest art. Also located here is Portland's Center for Performing Arts, a quartet of performance spaces that host more than 900 performances each year.

### Alberta, "The Arty Edge"

Not all of Portland's artists are on stage or in a museum. Alberta is an art scene in an ethnically diverse neighborhood. Here glass and pottery studios co-exist alongside barbershops, soul food emporia and Mexican cantinas.

[http://www.pova.com/visitors/visguide/attractions\\_portland.html](http://www.pova.com/visitors/visguide/attractions_portland.html)

# The Great Outdoors

It's beautiful here.....



Mt. Hood



Columbia River Gorge



Oregon Coastline

- ◆ **Mt. Hood, Portland's most famous "skyscraper"!**  
The tallest peak in Oregon @ 11,239' and the most photographed of Portland's skyline, Mt. Hood boasts three ski areas, hiking, camping, boating and other outdoor activities just 60 miles from downtown Portland.
- ◆ **Parks** --Portland is proud of its parks and its legacy of preserving open spaces. In fact, it has one of the highest parks per capita ratios among cities in the United States.
- ◆ **Columbia River Gorge, Waterfalls, 77 Ways to Get Wet!**  
Eighty miles long and up to 4,000' deep, the Gorge is a spectacular canyon cutting through the Cascade Mountain Range. Recognizing the stunning beauty of the Gorge's black cliffs, ribbon-like waterfalls (77), and lush fir forests, Congress designated the Gorge the nation's first National Scenic Area in 1986.
- ◆ **The Oregon Coastline**  
Lush evergreen forests, picturesque coastal scenery, rugged cliffs, impressive sand dunes and vast sandy beaches await you along the spectacular Pacific Coast Scenic Byway, US Highway 101. Many lighthouses dot the Oregon coast and there are hundreds of parks to explore.

# Dining

Portlanders will tell you that there is no better place to cook and eat than Oregon. The formula for Portland's culinary success is fine cooking, simple menus, and, above all, fresh ingredients. The key to fresh ingredients is being close to the source: close to the farmers, the fishermen, the sun, the soil, and, yes, the rain. The bounty of the region's seafood, berries, pears, cherries, hazelnuts, wild game and vegetables has inspired many a chef and satisfied as many palates. Pacific Northwest cuisine is a delightful culinary adventure; the Portland food scene is one of the city's most exciting features.



Portland is also well known for its beer. In recent years Portland has become known as much for its microbreweries as Seattle is for its coffeehouses. Today with 33 breweries within city limits, Portland is home to more breweries than any other city in the world.

**Fact: Bountiful Berries!** Oregon's Willamette valley produces more varieties of berries than anywhere else in the world!

<http://www.travelportland.com/visitors/visguide/dining.html>

# Entertainment

Wherever you go in Portland, you are never far from an art house cinema, performance space or gallery. In the heart of downtown Portland, you can explore some of the city's major institutions for the fine and performing arts. The Pearl District is a former industrial shell now housing a continually emerging collection of art galleries, boutiques, restaurants and performance spaces. A little farther west is the more established polish of Nob Hill, with its boutiques, cafes and theatres.

[http://www.pova.com/arts\\_culture/arts\\_culture.html](http://www.pova.com/arts_culture/arts_culture.html)

Portland's Rose Festival is scheduled June 2-12 along the waterfront. The Festival is Portland's premiere event and has been a Northwest tradition for over 99 years. The festival has been named one of the top 3 highly decorated events by the International Festivals and Events Association. It features a Waterfront Village with entertainment, carnival rides, food and exhibits; Fleet Week, a Rose Show and at least 50 more activities. For more information visit the festival website at

<http://www.rosefestival.org>.



Dragon Boat Parade at the Rose Festival